

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for brokering network services comprising:
negotiating usage of networks and network services from a network
5 company by a network broker; and
providing usage of the networks and network services to a virtual
network operator by the network broker.
2. The method for brokering network services of claim 1, wherein the
10 network broker negotiates with a plurality of network companies.
3. The method for brokering network services of claim 1, wherein the
network broker provides to a plurality of virtual network operators.
- 15 4. The method for brokering network services of claim 3, wherein the
network broker negotiates usage based upon a combined total usage of the
plurality of virtual network operators.
5. The method for brokering network services of claim 2, wherein the
20 network broker switches between different network companies' networks based
on pricing, rates, availability, or quality.

6. The method for brokering network services of claim 5, wherein switching between networks is transparent to the virtual network operator.

5 7. The method for brokering network services of claim 1, wherein the network comprises a telephone, wireless, cable, communication, satellite, or computer network or a combination of these networks.

8. A method for brokering network services comprising:

10 negotiating usage of networks and network services from a plurality of network companies by a network broker;

providing usage of the networks and network services to a plurality of virtual network operators by the network broker; and

switching between the networks and network services of different
15 network companies by the network broker.

9. The method for brokering network services of claim 8, wherein the network broker negotiates usage based upon a combined total usage of the plurality of virtual network operators.

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10. The method for brokering network services of claim 8, wherein the

network broker switches between different network companies' networks based on pricing, rates, availability, or quality.

11. The method for brokering network services of claim 8, wherein
5 switching between networks is transparent to the virtual network operators.

12. The method for brokering network services of claim 8, wherein the network comprises a telephone, wireless, cable, communication, satellite, or computer network or a combination of these networks.

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13. A method for improving network services comprising:

brokering usage of a network from a network company for a virtual network operator by a network broker.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the network broker brokers usage from
15 a plurality of network companies.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the network broker brokers usage for a plurality of virtual network operators.

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16. The method of claim 15, wherein the network broker negotiates usage

based upon a combined total usage of the plurality of virtual network operators.

17. The method of claim 14, wherein the network broker switches between networks of different network companies based on pricing, rates, availability,
5 service, or quality.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein switching between networks is transparent to the virtual network operator.

10 19. The method of claim 17, wherein the switching is performed according to a schedule or when predetermined criteria are met.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein the network comprises a telephone, wireless, cable, communication, satellite, or computer network or a
15 combination of these networks.